Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 044702 ORIGIN IO-13

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TAGS: UN, SHUM

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: AGENDA ITEM 6 - SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

REF: GENEVA 1414

1. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES YOUR SUGGESTION TO CO-SPONSORS OF RESOLUTION REPORTED REFTEL THAT THEY DIVIDE IT INTO SECTIONS IS A SOUND ONE. IF THIS IS DONE IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE SECOND PART, INCORPORATING A PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR ECOSOC, IS CONFINED TO A GENERAL ENDORSEMENT OF THE WORK OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP AND AN APPROVAL OF THE EXTENSION OF ITS MANDATE, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO SUPPORT THAT PART. IN ORDER TO DO SO, HOWEVER, WE WOULD WANT TO AVOID ANY BLANKET ENDORSEMENT OF THE CONCLUSIONS AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP, UNLESS IT SHOULD BE THE CASE THAT THEY ARE CONSISTENT WITH U.S. POLICY.

2. OUR SPECIFIC PROBLEMS WITH THE RESOLUTION AS IT NOW STANDS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- A. OPERATIVE PARA 5 CONTAINS CHAPTER VII LANGUAGE WHICH GOES BEYOND U.S. POSITION.
- B. OPERATIVE PARA 7 CONTAINS BLANKET APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF HAVANA SEMINAR, ALL OF WHICH WE DO NOT AGREE WITH.
- C. OPERATIVE PARA 9 NOT HAVING SEEN THE REPORT, WE DO NOT KNOW IF WE ARE PREPARED TO ADOPT "ALL THE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP."
- D. OPERATIVE PARA 12 ENDORSES THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DECLARATION OF DAKAR, WHICH CONTAINS OBJECTIONABLE CHAPTER VII LANGUAGE. ALSO ITS CONDEMNATION OF WINDHOEK CONFERENCE IS NOT WHOLLY JUSTIFIED.
- E. OPERATIVE PARA 17 WE HAVE SERIOUS LEGAL PROBLEMS WITH APARTHEID CONVENTION AND DO NOT WANT TO ASSOCIATE OURSELVES WITH AN INVITATION TO ACCEDE.
- 3. IF RESOLUTION CONTAINING ABOVE OBJECTIONABLE FEATURES COMES TO A VOTE, YOU SHOULD VOTE AGAINST, MAKING APPROPRIATE STATEMENT THAT OUR STAND AGAINST APARTHEID HAS BEEN MADE ABUNDANTLY CLEAR, BUT THAT THE RESOLUTION CONTAINS LANGUAGE THAT WE CANNOT ACCEPT.
- 4. WE NOTE THAT OPERATIVE PARA 8 REFERS TO WORLD CONFERENCE FOR ACTION AGAINST APARTHEID. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE WOULD APPRECIATE REPORT OF USDEL'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PLANS FOR HANDLING POSSIBLE SEPARATE RESOLUTION ON THIS ITEM, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF LOWENSTEIN'S PLANNED EXCHANGE WITH HARRIMAN. DELEGATION SHOULD NOT COMMIT ITSELF TO SUPPORT ANY RESOLUTION UNTIL IT HAS BEEN SENT TO DEPARTMENT AND APPROVED.

5. VOA HAS QUERIED US ABOUT PRESS REPORT OF USDEL STATEMENT IN HRC ON SOUTH AFRICA. PLEASE PROVIDE TEXT SOONEST SO WE MAY RESPOND.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
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^{***} Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Subject: HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: AGENDA ITEM 6 - SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

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